



Aug. 25, 2006

This Week In Correction

A weekly update of events in the Tennessee Department of Correction

MAKING THE WORLD A BETTER PLACE:



Commissioner Little delivered the welcoming speech to more than 300 providers at the Tennessee Sex Offender Treatment Board Conference in Williamson County this week. After discussing ideas with Mental Health Director Jeanine Miller, PhD, Commissioner Little told the crowd, "At the end of the day, it's about protecting the public. I encourage you in your work as you help to make Tennessee a safer place to live."

This year's conference attracted widespread media coverage and was one of the most well attended.



OFFICER TAYLOR DIES IN ACCIDENT:



Correctional Officer Prentiss Taylor died this week in an accidental drowning. He had been an officer at **MLCC** for 8 years and always had a smile on his face. He will be missed.

Please keep his family and friends in your thoughts and prayers.

MOVING ON UP:

Warden Wayne Brandon presents badges and bars to Mack Tole and Lester Qualls on their recent promotions to Correctional Captain at **TCIP**. Both men have long, distinguished careers at Turney beginning as correctional officers. Captain Qualls began his career in 1973. Captain Tole came on board in 1978. Both started as correctional officers at Turney. Congratulations!



MR. CHARLES BASS RETURNS:



Former Warden Charles Bass paid a visit this week to the facility that bears his name. Warden Ken Locke, **CBCX**, hosted a luncheon in his predecessor's honor and spoke about Mr. Bass' accomplishments in TDOC. In 2004, the General Assembly approved a resolution to rename the Middle Tennessee Correctional Complex the Charles B. Bass Correctional Complex.

Mr. Bass retired in 1998 after a distinguished 35-year career that included stints as correctional officer, deputy warden, warden and assistant commissioner. Mr. Bass was nationally recognized as a leader in corrections and is highly regarded by his peers and former employees.



Deputy Warden Charles Simmons, Brandon Maloney and Warden Locke surround Mr. Bass for a photo during his visit. As you can see, the former leader is in good spirits and doing well.



Ricky J. Bell
Warden

RMSI Warden Ricky Bell came across this excerpt in Corrections Today from Mark McCormack's book, "What they don't teach you at Harvard Business School":

"This is one of the primary roles of leaders. True leaders are completely committed to the growth of others and believe that they have value that exceeds their tangible contribution as employees. Leaders cherish their employees and will go to great lengths to retain them." McCormack offered a good rule of thumb for leaders, "There's no mystery to holding on to good employees. Give them a lot of responsibility, don't insult them with their paycheck, and tell them once in awhile how they're doing."

WISDOM ON A BUMPER:

Deputy Commissioner Ray saw this quote on a bumper sticker this morning and felt it appropriate for **TDOC**, what do you think?

"Change is inevitable; struggle is optional."

PEACE OFFICERS FOUNDATION HONOR:

A plaque recognizing the contribution of Officer Wayne "Cotton" Morgan was presented to **BMCX** this week. Don Dease, a representative of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, presented the plaque to Warden Jim Worthington, Mrs. Morgan and CO Larry "Porky" Harris. Officer Harris was with Ofc. Cotton the day he was ambushed.



IN THE EYE OF THE BEHOLDER:

The Cosmetology School at **TPW** is in full swing, ladies and gentleman. You're invited to stop by for a little sprucing up, for a small fee. Just make sure you call ahead of time for an appointment because they are busy. There are currently 17 inmates enrolled in the school. They will spend 18 to 24 months learning tricks of the trade from Vocational Instructor Claudia Rourk.



"This is the only program where they can get a license with the state of Tennessee through the board of cosmetology," said Rourk. "After completing 1,500 hours, we submit an application for them to take an exam, once they pass the exam they get a license and upon leaving TDOC, they can go and work in any salon in the state. I love coming here and doing my job but it doesn't feel like work."

Services include everything from haircuts, manicures, facials, and relaxers to basic hair coloring. Call 741-1255 ext. 6339 if you're in need of a spa day (aren't we all). Services are available to all correction employees.



LET'S GO BLEDSOE:



Deputy Commissioner Ray leads the second of many meetings to come of the Bledsoe Task Force charged with reviewing the planned prison expansion. The task force is made up of senior central office and field staff and is reviewing all aspects of the expansion from the overall mission, number of beds to be provided, programs and academic services.

The Task Force and the consultant, Mark Goldman & Associates out of Atlanta report to a decision making team composed of Commissioner Little, Deputy Commissioner Ray, Assistant Commissioner Colson and Charles Garrett from Finance and Administration.

Director of Health Donna White, Assistant Commissioner Jim Cosby and Warden Virginia Lewis listen to comments during the meeting held at Central Office.



ROOM WITH A VIEW:



This was the view of legislative plaza from Central Office during the National Conference of Legislators meeting in Nashville. Diane Moore, Asst. to Deputy Commissioner Ray, snapped the photo to show off her fair city.

QUOTES OF THE WEEK:

"Each and every one of us -every day-is either in a crisis, coming out of a crisis, or headed into a crisis."

-Author Andy Andrews

-Submitted by John Drummond, Legal Counsel.

"It's not what people do to us that hurt's us. In the most fundamental sense it is our chosen response to what they do to us that hurts us."

- Stephen R. Covey

-Submitted by Cathy McKee, Secretary, Tennessee Correction Academy.

"You can't live a perfect day without doing something for someone who will never be able to repay you."

- John Wooden

-Submitted by Linda L. Cox, Personnel Analyst, STSRCF Human Resources.